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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/047,917

01/14/2002

Thad Kroon

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20995 7590 03/26/2007
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EXAMINER

POINVIL, FRANTZY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3692

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/26/2007

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Notice of this Office communication was sent electronically on the above-indicated "Notification Date" and has a shortened statutory period for reply of 3 MONTHS from 03/26/2007.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/047,917	Applicant(s) KROON ET AL.	
	Examiner Frantzy Poinvil	Art Unit 3692	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Templeton et al (US Patent No. 5,679,940).

As per claims 1, 13-16 and 24-27, Templeton et al disclose a system and method for enabling a merchant to accept or deny a check presented by a customer for the payment of goods or services. Templeton et al disclose:

a risk scoring engine that evaluates risk in an original financial transaction wherein a customer is attempting to pay for vendibles using a promissory payment and wherein the risk scoring engine uses a first scoring model to assess the risk of the original financial transaction and provides a signal indicating that the promissory payment by the customer in the original financial transaction be declined when the risk exceed a pre-selected threshold; decision overturn engine that re-evaluates the decline using a second scoring model, wherein the overturn scoring engine classifies the risk of overturning the original decline and provides an overturn classification signal indicative thereof; and

a customer service module that receives the overturn classification signal from the overturn scoring engine and provides the signal to a customer service representative such that

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when the customer service representative receives a request to overturn the decline of promissory payment in the original transaction, the customer service representative utilizes the overturn classification signal to decide whether to overturn the original decline. Applicant is directed to column 6, lines 48-67 and column 25, lines 1-20 and column 5, lines 1-20.

As per claim 2, Templeton et al disclose a point of sale transmission device that transmits data about the original financial transaction to the risk scoring engine and wherein the point of sale transmission device receives the signal from the risk scoring engine to communicate the acceptance or decline of the original financial transaction. See column 5, lines 1-20.

As per claim 3, the promissory payment comprises a check.

As per claim 4 the system further comprises a database and wherein the decision overturn engine stores the overturn classification signals in the database for subsequent access by the customer service module. See column 6, lines 48-67 and column 12, lines 52-65.

As per claims 5-7, and 17-18, 26-27 various types of criteria are used in order to predict or result in a classification signal as whether to accept or deny the promissory payment.

As per claims 8-12, 19-23 and 28-31, Templeton et al teach determine a low risk, a medium risk and a high risk. See column 6, lines 48-67. Templeton et al teach overturning the original transaction decision on these different risks if the customer provides additional details to the customer service representative. It should be noted that Templeton et al provide these classification of risks because a customer's promissory statement is being declined. Templeton et al state that if a customer's promissory statement is declined, the final decision may be left to the merchant or a live agent. See column 5, lines 13-20. Additional information may be

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requested from the merchant or the merchant may overturn the decision. See column 25, lines 8-20.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (571) 272-6797. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



**Frantzy Poinvil
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3692**